REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's approval and entry of Applicant's request for continued examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Claims 20 and 21 are pending in this application. Claims 1-19 were previously canceled. No new claims have been added. Claim 20 has been amended to further define the claimed subject matter.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd

Claim 21 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in that the limitation "the two dimensional image" does not have antecedent basis. Claim 21 has been amended to change "the two dimensional image" to -- a two dimensional image --. It is believed that by this amendment, the rejection is overcome.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 20 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Murakami et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,449,975) in view of Nakamura et al. (U.S. Published Application No. 2002/0054976) and Meguro (JP 2000-090619). Claim 21 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Murakami et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,449,975) in view of Nakamura et al. (U.S. Published Application No. 2002/0054976), Meguro (JP 2000-090619) and Togashi (JP 2001-273661).

The Examiner concedes that Murakami et al. do not disclose a "coring" process, i.e., detecting the center of gravity and creating the center hole in a glass substrate based on the center of gravity of the substrate. For this deficiency, the Examiner relies on Nakamura et al. According to the Examiner, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art from the

teachings of Nakamura et al. to expect that a hole would be created a hole where the center of gravity is set to the center of the hole that is drilled out. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Independent claim 20 has been amended to define that the center hole is created so that the center of gravity is the center of the center hole. Further, claim 20 requires detecting the center of gravity of the glass substrate. These two features are not disclosed or suggested by Nakamura et al. According to the method disclosed by Nakamura et al. relied upon by the Examiner (¶ [0048]), the Examiner is focusing on the term "axisymmetric transformation." This term is not defined in Nakamura's specification. Nor has the Examiner provided any teaching that the term is a term of art with a specific meaning directed to detecting the center of gravity and creating a hole based on the center of gravity.

There is no disclosure in Nakamura et al. that the patentees were referring to the center hole or to the disk-shape of the molded glass. Nakamura et al. discloses forming "inner surface" 14 by precise machining (¶ [0042]), but not by (i) detecting the center of gravity of a glass substrate and (ii) creating a center hole in the substrate so that the center of gravity becomes the center of the center hole as required by claim 20. Accordingly, the teachings of Nakamura et al. would not provide any motivation to detect the center of gravity in the glass substrate and then creating a center hole based on the center of gravity detected.

Meguro does not make up for the deficiencies of Murakami et al. and Nakamura et al. Meguro neither discloses nor suggests detecting the center of gravity and/or creating a hole. Togashi fails to make up for the deficiencies of Murakami et al., Nakamura et al. and Meguro. While Togashi discloses detecting the inclination of an optical disk, the reference fails to disclose detecting the center of gravity of the disk, let alone creating a center hole based on the

center of gravity. Togashi discloses in ¶ [0005] detecting a center of intensity of light which irradiates a medium. The reference does not disclose or suggest detecting the center of gravity of the medium. Accordingly, Togashi has no teaching for detecting the center of gravity of a glass substrate, let alone the feature of claim 21, namely, detecting the center of gravity by carrying out image processing on a two dimensional image as viewed from the direction of the thickness of the glass substrate.

For the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the Office Action fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness and that claims 20 and 21 are patentable over the teachings of the prior art relied upon by the Examiner. It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration of the claims is requested in light of the preceding amendments and remarks. Allowance of the claims is courteously solicited.

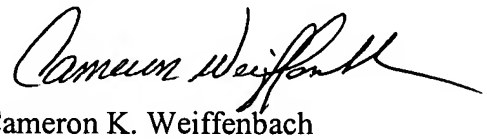
If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

A petition for a one-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



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